

## **Ag Conference Call Notes**

**June 27, 2007**

**9 a.m.**

**Present:** Tom McCarthy, Eric Wiklund, Cindy Martens, Ken Hessenius, Dan Olson, Josh Sobaski, Randy Clark, Gene Tinker, Cyrus Rustin, Bob Palla and Karen Grimes

**Site Survey Form-** all offices are reminded to use the new site survey form. It was updated by Michelle in FO#2 and distributed to all offices. If you need a new copy please contact Michelle.

**NPDES Electronic Submittal-** Ken and Dan will work on getting NPDES record submittal electronically. It will be beneficial if producers can just email their quarterly record keeping to their local DNR field office like is done for wastewater reports. They would receive an auto reply telling them that their monitoring was received. Subject heading for these emails could be "Feedlot MOR for XYZ Site" A signed copy would be kept on site. When finalized this should be put out as a List Serve article and a Press Release.

**Excessive Rain and Basins-** There has been the need for some facilities with earthen basins to spray irrigate over crops due to the large amount of rain. They can take this manure to alfalfa fields or other storage structures if an emergency situation is nearing. Producers must document this transfer in their MMPs and test manure before application. Producers should be reminded to start preparations as freeboard approaches the limit. If a producer is in this situation they should call their local field office immediately.

**Tier Ratings-**It was brought up that it may be beneficial to eliminate the tier system and the tracking that goes along with it. The tier ratings were a result of the kaizen and it would need to be brought back to the committee before the ratings could be eliminated.

**AFO Database-**They are not constructing a new database any longer. They are just revamping the current database. Building the tier structure into the database requires a lot of extra work.

**MMP Scheduling-** It was brought up at the supervisors meeting that there will be a shift from confinement to open lot inspections. There are 4 FTEs for open lot work. Goal for MMP inspections is once per 8 years, but if capable the staff should continue at the rate of 1 inspection per 4 years (per site).

**Fox or Mink Farms-** At this time these animals are not considered as a regulated animal under our current rules.

**567 IAC 65.101(8)** Please remember that this subrule is not valid. Cross it out in your green books. It is by statute, not yet updated in the rules. Senate File 2369 or 459A.403 is what you should be using for stockpiling rules. Remember that these rules are for large **and** small open lots.

**Statement of Intent for <1,000 head open lots-**If an open lot facility decides to reduce to less than 1,000 animal units we will require a "Statement of Intent". They need to write a letter and note it in the file, that now they will not need an NMP or NPDES permit. If they already have the NPDES permit it must be rescinded. They will lose the protection for discharging under the NPDES permit during rain events.

**NMP Checklist-**has been emailed to each office for NMP review.

**File Retainment??-** Dan Olson questioned the need to keep files of sites that were not built. Randy will check into this and let us know.

**Master Matrix Independent Review**-After an independent review Des Moines staff denied a construction permit due to no clean out ports on a tile. The FO staff feels that if there is criteria for master matrix review then the FO should know these criteria. There must be engineer discussion with the field office staff and the supervisor in these situations. Staff felt that it shouldn't be whatever the county accepts; standards should be known ahead of time. There will be a meeting regarding independent review with supervisory staff and FO staff will be informed of the outcome at a later date.

**NMPs**- Nutrient Management Plans must be put on Public Notice and in the field office for review. Some facilities did Public Notice, but didn't submit the plan to the local FO. If this is the case they must republish their notice after submitting the NMP to the local office. If the NMPs aren't in by the 10<sup>th</sup> of August an NOV letter should be sent. If they are not in by the end of the month an Administrative Order should be issued.

The next Ag Conference Call will be on Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m.

Submitted by Cindy Martens